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## ADDITIONAL WRITING TOPICS

### Example

1. Select one of the following general statements, or set forth a general statement of your own that one of these inspires. Making it your central idea (or THESIS), support it in an essay full of examples. Draw your examples from your reading, your studies, your conversation, or your own experience.

Voice mail is a great convenience (or a great inconvenience) for the caller.

Electronic mail provides a form of communication that letters and the telephone don't.

People one comes to admire don't always at first seem likable.

Fashions this year are loonier than ever before.

Good (or bad) habits are necessary to the nation's economy.

Each family has its distinctive lifestyle.

Certain song lyrics, closely inspected, promote violence.

Comic books are going to the dogs.

At some point in life, most people triumph over crushing difficulties.

Churchgoers aren't perfect.

TV commercials suggest that buying the advertised product will improve your love life like crazy.

Home cooking can't win over fast food.

Ordinary lives sometimes give rise to legends.

Some people I know are born winners (or losers).

Books can change our lives.

Certain machines *do* have personalities.

Some road signs lead drivers astray.

2. In a brief essay, make a GENERALIZATION about either the terrors or the joys that members of minority groups seem to share. To illustrate your generalization, draw examples from personal experience, from outside reading, or from two or three of the essays in this book by the following authors: Maya Angelou (p. 86), Amy Tan (p. 92), Sherman Alexie (p. 97), Jhumpa Lahiri (p. 139), Brent Staples (p. 179), Nancy Mairs (p. 215), Shelby Steele (p. 280), Gloria Naylor (p. 388), Christine Leong (p. 394), and Martin Luther King, Jr. (p. 464).